

DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES: JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D.

Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
315 Washington Ave.,
St. Louis, Mo.

Jan.
4th,
1951.

Dear Eric:

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 27th which I found on my arrival in town. I spent about ten days in Martinsville, Indiana, a resort where I was bored to death.

All that I want are good 8 x 10" glossies of the Carolina money and the best of the Benjamin Levy money. I know something about Benjamin Levy and I am saying something about him in my next volume.

With kindest regards to you and your dear ones,
I am

As ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jacob", with a long, sweeping underline that loops back up towards the end of the signature.

JRM:pk

March 9, 1951

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus
Hebrew Union College
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

As you requested when you were kind enough to call on us in St. Louis, I am enclosing herewith a glossy print of a Three Dollar New York note issued according to resolution of the Provisional Congress of New York on September 2, 1775, and showing the tablets containing the Ten Commandments.

It is, of course, a pleasure to do this for you.

Sincerely yours,

EPNewman;atb

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CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

Mr. Eric P. Newman,
c/o Chasnoff, Willson & Cunningham,
Boatmen's Bank Building,
St. Louis, Mo.

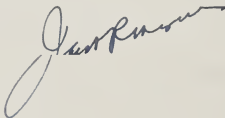
Dec.
13th,
1951.

Dear Eric:

I am enclosing a photostat of one side of a piece of paper money which is in your possession. May I have two glossies, 8 x 10"? If you will instruct the photographer to send me a bill, I shall send him a check by return mail. I am very eager to use this particular picture for a book which I propose to publish. I do not suppose, by any chance, that you have a bill of credit signed by Benjamin Levy, a revolutionary war figure. He issued such bills for \$30 in February 1777. He was in Philadelphia or in Maryland. If you do not have this bill of credit of Benjamin Levy, do you know to whom I may turn to secure a photograph copy?

With kindest regards, I am

Very cordially yours,



JRM:pk

enc:

December 27, 1951

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

Your letter of December 13th eventually got to me through Ferd and I hasten to reply that I have located in my collection bills issued under the authority of the Continental Congress bearing the signature of "B. Levy". Apparently he signed bills of the issue of November 2, 1776 and February 26, 1777, the latter being the Baltimore issue, the former being one of the Philadelphia issues. There must have been various denominations signed by him, not just the \$30.00 denomination. I am having a photograph of one of these taken as I presume you very definitely want it. If you are going to say anything about the Continental Currency, I wish you would indicate if you wish any other details - or do you have sufficient information on the life of Benjamin Levy to be satisfied with a picture of his autograph on Continental money? I do not find his autograph on any of the money issued by the separate colonies contemporaneously.

Let me know your wishes and I am glad to be able to have found what you were looking for.

Sincerely,

EPN;atb

January 9, 1952

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

As you requested, I am pleased to enclose herewith 8½x11 glossy print of the \$2.00 South Carolina currency and the Continental currency signed by Benjamin Levy. It is always a pleasure to help you.

If you can arrange to send a copy of your new book to me, duly autographed, I will appreciate it and I will send a check in whatever manner you wish.

I am very interested in your trip to the West Indies this summer. As you may know, I spent a good deal of time looking at the records of the Temple in St. Thomas and have a photograph of a very interesting quetabah as well as Judah P. Benjamin's birth record which I believe I forwarded to you. Before you go I have some very interesting information on the Monsanto family whose Monsanto Chemical empire has grown out of the development of saccharine. I visited both the new and the old Jewish cemeteries in St. Thomas and they are fascinating; the old cemetery being in rather nice condition for one which is not kept up and where there is a lizard or two on every sepulcher.

Governor Morris DeCastro is a devout member of the congregation and attends services every Friday night and will give you an endless amount of help.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

January 16, 1952

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I am very grateful to you for your prompt response to my request for glossy prints of the currency. I wish all my friends were as responsive as you.

I have arranged to send an autographed copy of my book to you and the publishers will bill you in due course. I hope you like it. The second volume, upon which I am now working, will appear, God willing, in January 1953.

I am very much interested in the Monsanto family. I believe I have traced them to Natchez, Mississippi, under the Spanish. Then they were obviously of Jewish origin but lived as Catholics. I am eager, however, to secure more information about this family. Any data you can give me will be appreciated.

I am looking forward to meeting Governor Morris DeCastro. As you know, he is a relative of Rabbi Morris Lazon.

With best wishes to you and your dear ones for the New Year, I am,

Cordially yours,

JACOB R. MARCUS

JRM:SG

January 24, 1952

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

I am very enthusiastic about your book and had the opportunity to read a small section of it last night.

With respect to the Monsanto Chemical Company and the Monsanto for whom it was named, I find that Olga Mendes Monsanto came from the Virgin Islands. I will give you all of my data but, for the present, some friends of mine are going to the Virgin Islands and going to copy what is on the gravestones so as to complete information in my file. I will then turn it over to you for completion.

I must warn you about the Virgin Islands. It is a divorce mecca and you must be prepared to be molested at all times not by the iguana but by those who are establishing a permanent temporary residence.

The dedication in your book is as cute as the dickens.

My best wishes.

Sincerely,

EPN;atb

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

January 18, 1952.

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

Would you be kind enough to have 1 more set of glossies
8 x 10 made of the Carolina money and the Benjamin Levy money.

I will be glad to have a check made out to the photographer
upon the receipt of his invoice to the Hebrew Union College,
Archives.

Thanking you for your kind cooperation, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Bertha Lauter

Bertha Lauter
Secretary to Dr. Marcus

THE JEWISH PUBLICATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA

222 NORTH FIFTEENTH STREET

PHILADELPHIA 2, PA.



SHIPPED TO

CHARGED TO

MR ERIC P NEWMAN
EDISON BROS STORE INC
315 WASHINGTON AVE
ST LOUIS MO

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO J. P. S.

INVOICE NO.	DATE	ORDER NO.	ORDERED BY	SHIP VIA	TERMS:
A 11397	JAN 18 52	J R MARCUS		PP	NET 30 DAYS — NO DISCOUNT

EARLY AMERICAN JEWRY

3 50 NET

3 50

SENT BY- DR J R MARCUS

BOOKS RETURNED WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR CREDIT

All claims for allowances must be made within one week after receipt of goods.

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ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

January 22, 1952

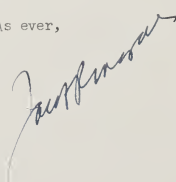
Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

If you receive a bill from the publishers
for a copy of my book on Early American Jewry, please
disregard it.

With kindest personal regards, I am,

As ever,



JRM:SG

January 25, 1952

The Jewish Publication Society of America
222 North Fifteenth Street
Philadelphia 2, Pa.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find check for \$3.50 for
another copy of "Early American Jewry".
Rabbi Marcus advises me that I should forget
the bill on the first copy which I received.

Very truly yours,

EPN/atb

January 21, 1952

Miss Bertha Lauter
Secretary to Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Miss Lauter:

Two additional glossy prints are enclosed,
in accordance with your request.

The charge for the photography is exactly
the same as the price of the book which
Doctor Marcus forwarded to me so if you
insist on paying for the photos, just bal-
ance it off against Doctor Marcus' book.

Very truly yours,

EPN;atb

THREE
Dollars.

NEW-YORK

THREE
DOLLARS



NEW-YORK CURRENCY.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

THREE DOLLARS.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

NEW-YORK:

Printed by JOHN HOLT; in the Year 1775.



DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES: JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D.

Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

January 28, 1952

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

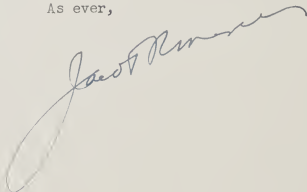
Many thanks for your kind letter of the 24th.

I am glad that you like my new book.

With respect to your warning about the Virgin Islands, I don't know whether to be frightened or intrigued. I shall certainly look forward to my visit to the place!

With all good wishes to you and your dear ones,
I am,

As ever,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jacob R. Marcus". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large loop at the end.

JRM:SG

March 3, 1952

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

I understand that you were in St. Louis a few days ago and the Missouri Historical Society indicated that you visited them.

Although you, no doubt, have the information, I wanted to mention that Benjamin Levy was appointed a signer of money by the Continental Congress on December 27, 1776. I happened to run across this information in connection with other research I am doing.

The real reason I am writing you is that there is a man by the name of Sam Solomon who was a fur trader working for Francois Liberge about 1802 in St. Louis. I believe he was also a stockholder in the American Fur Company. The Missouri Historical Society would be able to give you a substantial bit of information about him but so far as I know he is the first Jewish fur trader in the middlewest. I happen to have his autograph on a promissory note payable in deerskin.

With kindest personal regards, and hoping the foregoing information is of interest to you,

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

March 6, 1952

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

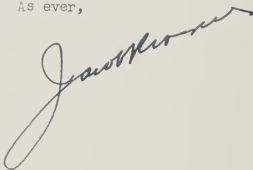
I would certainly have called you while I was in St. Louis if I would have had a few extra minutes, but I would not have been satisfied with a mere call as I would have wanted to come over and chat and, if possible, to look at some of your materials.

Years ago you sent me a copy of the Sam Solomon note but I did not know that the Missouri Historical Society had any more material. I am writing to Van Ravenswaay today. A thousand thanks for the tip. You are a swell guy.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes, I am,

As ever,

JRM:SG

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jacob R. Marcus", written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

April 23, 1952

Rabbi Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

Just a reminder that when you go on your expedition to the West Indies this summer to check the Old Jewish grave yard as well as the New Jewish grave yard in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, for any graves which have the Monsanto name on them.

No doubt you will try to obtain a complete photostat of the birth and death record book and marriage record book of the Temple. This contains certain Monsanto documents, particularly a copy of a quetubah between Elias M. Monsanto and Judith DeSola.

The mother of Edgar Monsanto Queeny left the Virgin Islands in 1896. Her maiden name was Olga Mendes Monsanto. The Monsanto Chemical Company is named after her.

I have a categorical denial from Edgar Monsanto Queeny that he is related to any Monsanto from the Virgin Islands. He does not know that I have documentary evidence of the fact that his mother came from there. I believe it will be interesting to you to run this matter down further.

My wife and I will leave within the week for Vienna where I will, probably, run into some new intrigue.

Have a pleasant summer and thank you for thinking of me with respect to the government coin publication.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

1803

December 24, 1952

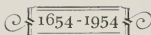
Mr. Eric Neuman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I have a statement to the effect that there is a two dollar issue of Confederate money carrying a vignette of Judah P. Benjamin. Is this true? Do you have a copy of it? If not, where shall I turn for a copy of this issue? I am eager to get hold of an 8 x 10 glossy for our Archives files.

With all good wishes to you and your dear ones, and with the hope that the New Year will usher in for all of us a year of health and happiness, I am

As ever,



Three Hundredth Anniversary of Jewish Settlement in America

December 29, 1952

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

The February 17, 1864 issue of the \$2 Confederate Note does contain a small portrait of Judah P. Benjamin. It is a very common bill but I do not have a duplicate of it; however, I am sure you would rather have an original as a photostat would cost more than an original would cost.

I will obtain one and send it to you at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES: JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D.

Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

January 6, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
310 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

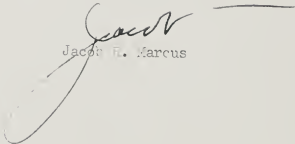
Many thanks for your kind letter of December 29.

I shall look forward to the receipt of the \$2 Confederate Note.

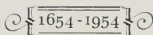
You will be interested to know that we just got microfilm copies of all the Jewish papers of Louis D. Brandeis - a tremendous collection.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes, I am,

As ever,


Jacob R. Marcus

JRM:SO



Three Hundredth Anniversary of Jewish Settlement in America

March 24, 1953

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

Some time ago you asked me to obtain for you a photostat of the picture of Judah P. Benjamin on the \$2 note of the Confederate States of America, and I wrote you that I would obtain an original for you in due course.

I am now pleased to give you a \$2 note dated February 17, 1864 issued by the Confederate States of America, in excellent condition.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES: JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D.

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

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CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

March 25, 1953

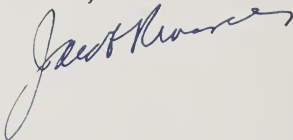
Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

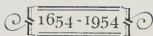
Many thanks for the gift of the \$2 note
of the Confederate States of America. It is a
beautiful specimen and is a nice addition to our
collection.

With all good wishes to you and your dear
ones, I am,

As ever,



JRM:SG



Three Hundredth Anniversary of Jewish Settlement in America

March 27, 1953

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Cincinnati, Ohio
Dear Doctor Marcus:

I noticed an item in a coming auction sale
which may be of interest to you.

Perhaps one of your friends in New York
might acquire it for you or you might get a photo-
stat if you do not already have one.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

April 2, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

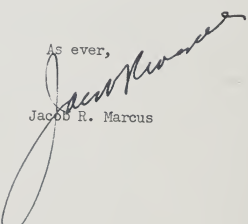
I was delighted to get your note of March 27.

You will be interested to know that I saw the Aaron Burr letter and I bid \$20 for it. I am paying for it out of our own funds -- if we get it. I have a feeling that I will not get it for that price.

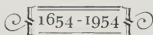
I will let you know what happens.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes, I am,

As ever,


Jacob R. Marcus

JRM:SG



Three Hundredth Anniversary of Jewish Settlement in America

DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES: JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D.

Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

April 22, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I am grateful to you for drawing my attention to the New York Map. We are interested and are offering \$15.00 for it. I hope we get it.

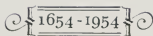
Apparently someone outbid us on the Aaron Burr letter.

With all good wishes, I am,

As ever,

Jacob R. Marcus

JRM:SJ



Three Hundredth Anniversary of Jewish Settlement in America

September 21, 1953

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

I have acquired a large bronze medal commemorating the 250th anniversary of Jewish settlement in the United States. The medal is executed by Isidore Kontis and, strangely enough, it is dated 1905 giving the date of the first arrival in 1655. This date is, of course, contrary to your findings.

What I wanted to know is if the Hebrew Union College has a specimen of this medal. If it has I will give the medal to Rabbi Isserman for his little museum. If you do not have it I believe it belongs in your collection.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

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AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

September 23, 1953

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
315 Washington Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I certainly appreciate your thinking of us. We would be delighted to receive the bronze medal commemorating the 250th anniversary of Jewish settlement in the United States. It will be added to our collection. Again, many thanks for your constant courtesies to us.

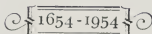
Enclosed is a copy of our most recent publication. With this pamphlet to guide them, we believe that any community can sit down and organize a history-writing project of a local Jewish community.

With all good wishes and kindest personal regards, I am,

As ever,


Jacob R. Marcus

JRM:SG



Three Hundredth Anniversary of Jewish Settlement in America

September 24, 1953

American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Attention: Dr. Jacob Marcus

Gentlemen:

Under separate cover I am sending to you the large bronze medal executed by Isidore Konti commemorating the 250th anniversary of Jewish settlement in the United States.

I am pleased to make this gift to you for your museum collection and am very pleased that you do not have one.

With best wishes for your continued success,

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

October 6, 1953

Rabbi Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

You were nice enough to send me one copy of your "Suggestions as to How to Write the History of a Jewish Community" and I have been asked to assist a group here in writing up material of that nature.

I would like to have three additional copies of the pamphlet if you have them available.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/ATB

MISSOURI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JEFFERSON MEMORIAL BUILDING

ST. LOUIS 12, MISSOURI

CHARLES VAN RAVENSWAAY
Director

April 15, 1954.

Dear Eric:

After you have signed the checks will you send them will all the other papers on to Mr. Ewald who will then continue them on their way.

Thank you, and have a good trip.

Sincerely,

Marjory Douglas

February 10, 1955

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

I was surprised and delighted to receive a photostat of the Daniel Boone receipt with the Hebrew lettered English on the back. This is certainly an amazing item and I appreciate your cooperation with respect to it.

Thank you, again, for thinking of me.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

November 2, 1955

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio, 20

Dear Jacob:

Believe it or not, the historical research being conducted by the Women's Committee of the Jewish Federation is rolling along nicely and I hope that they are able to turn up a considerable quantity of interesting material. I am endeavoring to advise them, as well as a student at Washington University, who has been in contact with you, as to sources and possibilities.

I presume that Ferd told you that I had been reading some Philipson material. They are in the Missouri Historical Society collection and I am enclosing a photostat of an exciting one, namely, a letter from John Jacob Astor to Simon Philipson, in 1814, with respect to deer skins. I have bills listing items sold by Joseph and Jacob Philipson to Auguste Chouteau, the founder of St. Louis, in 1814, covering clothing and food, supplies and incidentals and acknowledging payment in furs, etc. I have bills for music lessons and sheet music from Joseph Philipson. Of course, you may know that the collection of paintings of Jacob Philipson was, apparently, fabulous, there being 400 in number and the inventory in our Probate Court shows that some are attributed to Rembrandt, Holbein, Hals, Reubens, DiVinci, etc. What happened to these pictures is not known as they were to be disposed of in America or Europe by the executor of Joseph Philipson. There is a complete detail of this collection which was kept in an art museum run by the Philipsons at 194 South Third Street.

I finally found that Jacob Philipson was buried in the United Hebrew cemetery. If any of these matters become of great interest to you I will try to have them properly assembled by the women working on the project.

Simon Block died in St. Louis March 29, 1837 and left 7 children, one of whom married Jacob Philipson. The reason I mention Simon Block is that I am beginning to do some research on the Block

November 2, 1955

family and find that three of those children, Joseph Block, Abraham Block and Mrs. Phineas Moses are listed as living in Cincinnati, Ohio. Is there any member of the Block family there who has any information about that branch of the Block family?

As you know, we are trying to arrange to see the early minute books of the United Hebrew Congregation as well as the B'Nai El and I am glad to hear much of the information is in your archives.

Let me know if you are in a hurry for any information for any book you are writing, otherwise we will try to assemble this detail as part of the project here and make it all available to you when it is finished.

My kindest regards to you and, above all, I realize that you are the real stimulant behind all of this work.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CINCINNATI
JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION . . . NEW YORK

Reply to:

JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D., *Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History*, 401 MCALPIN AVENUE, CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

December 14, 1955

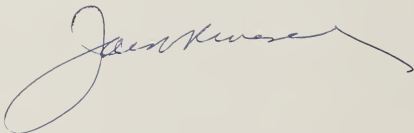
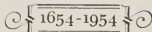
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue .
Clayton, St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Friends:

I cannot tell you what a joy it was to be with you and your lovely children last week. It was a delightful evening, and as you saw, I enjoyed every minute of it.

With all good wishes, and again with many thanks, I am

Very cordially yours,

A large, elegant handwritten signature in dark ink, likely belonging to Jacob R. Marcus. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'J' and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Three Hundredth Anniversary of Jewish Settlement in America

DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES: JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D.

Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

January 20, 1956

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

In connection with our correspondence of last November relating to the Block families in this area, it is possible that the family was the same Block family that originally settled in Virginia about the year 1802. From there some of them went to Arkansas in the 1820's. Then later they went up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to Cincinnati.

Does this sound like the information you are seeking?

With all good wishes, I am

Cordially,



Jacob R. Marcus

JRM:le

January 25, 1956

Dr. Jacob R. Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

Thank you for your nice letter of January 20th advising me of the information with respect to the Block family having settled in Virginia in 1802. I believe this must be the same Block family as the name "Block" appears in Southern Missouri along the Mississippi River. If there is any further reference you could give me to study that situation, I would be appreciative.

As I promised you, I am enclosing herewith a photostat showing you the conversion rates between the various currencies circulating in America and the various foreign coins circulating in America. This is under the 1787 date and is applicable from about 1760 until 1820 when English designations were no longer used, except with respect to South Carolina where, during and prior to the American Revolution, a substantial inflation affected the rates. This is a very tricky subject but I believe it will help you. The dollars referred to are Spanish mill dollars or pieces of 8 reals.

The Women's Committee of the Jewish Federation have progressed substantially with their research on early American Jewish families in this area and now wish to make a complete digest of the Jewish Voice which is available only in your archives. I would like to arrange to borrow the Jewish Voice either directly or to have it sent to the Missouri Historical Society where the women can work upon it in the library. In other words, if there is any difficulty in lending it to me on my responsibility, then I am sure there would be no difficulty in an inter-library loan basis. Please be kind enough to tell me which way this can be handled. They would like to begin work in April.

With respect to certain early records which I promised you concerning the Phillipson family, etc. I have arranged with the Probate Court for these records to be photostated privately rather than to have certified copies made, which are miserable. I just want to let you know this is in process.

My kindest personal regards to you.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR OF ARCHIVES: JACOB R. MARCUS, PH. D.

Adolph S. Ochs Professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

ARCHIVIST: SELMA STERN-TAEUBLER, PH. D.

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

February 15, 1956

Mr. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Eric:

I am enclosing a photostat which gives an account of Captain Abraham Block in which I know you will be interested.

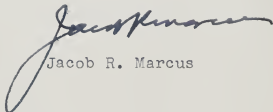
I am grateful to you for your thoughtfulness in supplying me with the photostats which show the conversion rates of the various currencies used in eighteenth century America.

Our copies of the Jewish Voice are in fragile condition, so much so that any handling of these precious newspapers would hasten their end. It would be difficult under these circumstances to have them sent to the Missouri Historical Society. At some future date it is our hope to be able to get hold of better copies and have a complete set of this periodical available on microfilm. I am sure that you understand this.

I am also grateful to you for your interest in obtaining the early records of the Phillipson family.

With all good wishes and kindest personal regards,
I am

Cordially yours,


Jacob R. Marcus

JRM:le

March 20, 1956

C O P Y

Mr. Herman L. Kaplow, Ex. Dir.
Jewish Federation of St. Louis
1007 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 1, Mo.

Dear Mr. Kaplow:

On behalf of the American Jewish Historical Society we respectfully submit to you a request for the sum of \$900 as an allocation for 1956.

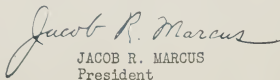
This request is the same as was submitted to you for 1955, notwithstanding the fact that our most essential plans cover a wider range than before and will require more funds than were available in previous years. However, we are cognizant of the many demands of Federations, as well as of the fact that it is difficult to cope with all of them in an adequate manner, and we therefore refrain from increasing our request.

With the termination of the Tercentenary observance, the upsurge of popular interest in American Jewish history continues. We feel more keenly than ever our obligation toward American Jewry to preserve and make available to future generations the record of the thrilling saga of more than 300 years of Jewish life in the Americas. One of the most important functions of our Society is to actively stimulate and support creative writing and original research in the field of American Jewish history which could not be performed otherwise. For the fulfillment of this task we depend on the moral and material support of our communities throughout the land.

Our budget for 1956 is herein enclosed. We are also enclosing a copy of the Auditor's Statement for the fiscal year ending December, 1955, and a description of the aims and activities of the Society. We can furnish you, if you so desire, with additional copies that you may require for the members of your Allocation Committee.

Please let us know if there is any further information which you would like us to send you to enable your Committee and Board to reach an early and favorable decision on our urgent request.

Very sincerely yours,

 
JACOB R. MARCUS MARK BORTMAN
President Treasurer



FOUNDED 1892

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

3080 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

Telephone: MONUMENT 6-7741

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PROF. SALO W. BARON

DR. DAVID DE SOLA POOL

March 22, 1956

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

May I appeal to you in a matter that is of vital importance to the American Jewish Historical Society.

As gratifying as the continuing rise of our membership may be, it is impossible to carry on the activities of a learned Society effectively by membership dues alone. It is imperative that we gain substantial aid from our Jewish Welfare Funds and Community Councils.

We have sent to the Welfare Fund in your community an application for a grant, and attach hereto copy of that letter. Although I know how busy you are with other communal duties, I take the liberty of asking you to appear in our behalf before the Allocations Committee of your Fund and to lend your energetic support for our application.

We shall be glad to supply you with any further information that you may deem necessary to enable you to present our case most effectively.

Please accept in advance my heartfelt thanks for all the help that you may be good enough to give us.

Sincerely yours,

Jacob R. Marcus
JACOB R. MARCUS
President

April 10, 1956

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

On February 15, 1956 you wrote me that the copies of the Jewish Voice are in too fragile condition to be sent on inter-library loan. On March 22 you asked me to represent you before the Jewish Federation with respect to the allotment of money to the American Jewish Historical Society.

I have become chairman of the Women's Historical Committee of the Jewish Federation in St. Louis and one of the difficult things is to justify the cooperation with ~~the various~~ historical work which is being done elsewhere and the apparent restriction with respect to permitting the St. Louis group to use the Jewish Voice for their research. I have gone over a great deal of the work which the Women's Committee has done and I think they are doing an excellent job. They are completely frustrated by not being able to have the Jewish Voice available. They may wish to have it microfilmed once they have it here but I certainly believe that you could well reconsider your decision about permitting it to be sent here for use.

If I can help you with respect to your allocation from the Jewish Federation I certainly will be glad to do so. In fact, if they do not make the allocation to you I will discuss with my wife a diversion of part of our gift to the Federation for your purpose. Please let me know whether you want me to contact Mr. Kaplow.

The reason for my delay in replying is that we took our children to Arizona for their spring vacation and I am just getting out from under my mound of mail.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

April 10, 1956

Dr. Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

I have just completed an article on the counterfeiting of Continental currency by the British during the American Revolution and this will be published in due course in one of the numismatic magazines.

One of the episodes in it is the smuggling of counterfeit money by the British under a flag of truce to supply their prisoners at Lancaster. There is an inference that a Mr. Franks had something to do with the shipment of the money but the matter is very vague. Who is the expert on the Franks family as I would be very interested in following up this matter further, as it is most intriguing. Perhaps that expert is you. If it is, I will give you the reference in the Pennsylvania Archives where this hint is given.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

BPN/atb

October 1, 1956

Rabbi Jacob Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

I am very pleased to report to you that the Women's Historical Committee of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis has been making excellent progress in gathering and segregating material. They have created a file at the federation for the use of everyone interested and this file is being added to continually. Their most recent work has been the historical material on the Jewish Hospital which is having a dedication of its additions in about a week.

One of the projects of the group was to direct and index the Modern View and we have several girls anxious to do so. For at least a year we have been endeavoring to borrow this file from Rabbi Isserman but he felt that it should not be removed from the Temple and several of the workers could not, conveniently, work on it there. He has now written me that the file has been micro-filmed and that the original of the Modern View has been given to the American Jewish Archives.

I would like, very much, to borrow the microfilm since you have the original documents, as our work on the Modern View has been held up for a substantial period. Regardless whether this micro-film can be loaned or not, I would like to see the organization purchase a duplicate of the film and would appreciate it if you would advise me as to the cost. In any event I will personally be responsible for the microfilm which we most anxiously wish to borrow.

As to the allocation to the American Jewish Historical Society of the funds of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, I have been checking on this matter from time to time and they indicate to me that the allotment will be made in a week or so. I hope that they will give you a reasonable amount but I have personally protected you by leaving the personal gift which my wife and I are making allocable between your organization and the Jewish Welfare Fund of St. Louis so that if they do not treat your organization in a reasonable manner you have a second line of defense.

I look forward to hearing from you and, with kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

cc - Mrs. Jerome Blance
JPM/atb

November 27, 1956

Dr. Jacob W. Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

With respect to your letter of November 23, 1956,
I realize the enormous cost of microfilming
The Jewish Voice and The Modern View.

My own personal opinion is that the Federation
may not wish to spend \$917.00 for a microfilm
positive but it will be quite a while before
this matter is submitted.

Would it be possible to have you send us the
11 reels of The Jewish Voice on an inter-library
loan? I happen to be Secretary of the Missouri
Historical Society and would be pleased to have
it sent to their library at DeBaliviere and
Lindell, St. Louis, Missouri. All expenses of
shipment will, of course, be paid.

Would you let me know if you require any further
formal request for an inter-library loan.

Sincerely yours,

LEIC P. STERNAN

LP/atb

C O P Y

April 3, 1957

Mr. Herman L. Kaplow, Exec. Dir.
Jewish Federation of St. Louis
1007 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Mr. Kaplow:

Since the Tercentenary observance, the upsurge of popular and academic interest in American Jewish history continues. Our material, as well as our publications, are constantly in demand and are being used by Jewish and non-Jewish scholars here and abroad. Because of the great demands, our facilities and services require expansion. Our collections of priceless books, manuscripts, portraits, memorabilia and historical art objects need more adequate facilities for their care and use.

We are deeply concerned with our obligation to American Jewry, to preserve and to make available to future generations the records of the thrilling saga of Jewish life in the Americas. We wish also to emphasize that one of the most important functions of our Society is to stimulate actively and to support creative writing and original research in the field of American Jewish history which could not be performed otherwise.

To aid us in the fulfillment of our tasks, we depend upon the moral support and material aid of our communities throughout the land, and we respectfully submit to you accordingly our request for an allocation of \$900.

Our budget for 1957 is herein enclosed. We are also enclosing a copy of the Auditor's Statement for the fiscal year ending December, 1956, and a description of the aims and activities of the Society. We can furnish you, if you so desire, with additional copies that you may require for the members of your Allocation Committee.

We trust that your Committee and Board will soon reach a favorable decision on our earnest request.

Very sincerely yours,


JACOB R. MARCUS
President


MARK BORTMAN
Treasurer



FOUNDED 1892

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

3080 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

Telephone: MONUMENT 6-7741

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DR. DAVID DE SOLA POOL

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis 5, Mo.

Dear Mr. Newman:

May I appeal to you in a matter that is of vital importance to the American Jewish Historical Society.

As gratifying as the continuing rise of our membership may be, it is impossible to carry on the activities of a learned Society effectively by membership dues alone. It is imperative that we gain substantial aid from our Jewish Welfare Funds and Community Councils.

We have sent to the Welfare Fund in your community an application for a grant, and attach hereto copy of that letter. Although I know how busy you are with other communal duties, I take the liberty of asking you to appear in our behalf before the Allocations Committee of your Fund and to lend your energetic support for our application.

We shall be glad to supply you with any further information that you may deem necessary to enable you to present our case most effectively.

Please accept in advance my heartfelt thanks for all the help that you may be good enough to give us.

Sincerely yours,

Jacob R. Marcus
JACOB R. MARCUS
President

April 14, 1957

Dr. Jacob M. Marcus
American Jewish Archives
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati 20, Ohio

Dear Doctor Marcus:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of April 12th. You will remember that, last year, you asked me to make a similar appeal on behalf of the American Jewish Historical Society to the AJA. I endeavored to do so on several occasions and they were not interested in hearing from me. The allocation of the amount collected was not made until near the end of 1956. They added no new organizations and, as a result, turned your organization down. However, I felt that I should protect your organization and in my pledge to the AJA drive I reserved the right to give part of the money directly to the American Jewish Historical Society. Since I have not paid my 1956 pledge I want you to know that Evelyn and I have decided to allocate \$500.00 to the American Jewish Historical Society. We may do the same thing this year, also.

I do not relish pressure methods in connection with St. Louis being its part toward your organization but there seems to be no other choice. If they will make a fair allocation in 1957 then I will be pleased but I feel your work is important enough for the St. Louis drive to support on a steady basis.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of one of my recent publications which I believe will be of interest to you. It is the story of the British counterfeiting of American paper money as a means of crushing the economic power of the American government.

kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC F. NEWMAN

ENF/atb



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AIMS AND ACTIVITIES

WHAT IS THE AJHS? The American Jewish Historical Society is a non-profit organization founded in 1892. Its offices are located at 3080 Broadway, New York 27, New York. Chapters of the Society exist in New England, Southern California, Chicago, and Detroit.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE AJHS? The object of the Society is to collect and publish material on the history of the Jews in America.

HOW DOES THE AJHS ACCOMPLISH THIS END? The Society has issued so far 45 volumes of its Publications. These are recognized as a major source for scholars, students, and interested laymen. The Publication is now issued as a quarterly, free to all members of the AJHS. The Society furthermore sponsors and supports creative research, and from time to time publishes books and monographs of general interest, maintaining its high standards of scholarship.

WHAT SERVICES DOES THE GENERAL COMMUNITY RECEIVE FROM THE AJHS?

(a) The AJHS has gathered and preserved a specialized library and a collection of invaluable documents, manuscripts, pictures and miniatures. This source material is constantly being used by qualified researchers. The art treasures are exhibited under proper provisions for their care and protection.

(b) Annually, the Society sponsors a two-day meeting that offers a forum for discussion and presentation of research papers. In addition, the Society from time to time sponsors or co-sponsors other scientific sessions. In the fall of 1954, it held a Conference of Historians which scrutinized the role of American Jewish historiography in its various ramifications; its printed proceedings will be available in 1956, under the title "Approaches to American Jewish History." In December 1955, the American Historical Association held its second annual joint session with the AJHS. During the same month, the AJHS, in cooperation with the Jewish Agency for Palestine, held a historians' conference on the "Early History of Zionism in America," the proceedings of which will be published during 1956.

(c) The AJHS is circulating to communal and educational institutions throughout the land travelling exhibits, consisting of photographs illustrating the growth of the American Jewish community, major events, and outstanding personalities.

(d) For graduate and undergraduate students of all races and creeds the AJHS sponsors an Annual Historical Essay Contest with prizes totalling \$1,000.

(e) The AJHS maintains an Office of Historical Information which provides answers to specific questions in the field of American Jewish history as well as general assistance in the writing of communal histories.

(f) The AJHS sponsored the national celebrations of the 250th anniversary of the settlement of the Jews in the United States in 1905, and gave impetus to the tercentenary observances of 1954-55. It provided the bulk of the historical information used in the publications, public events, news media, exhibitions, etc., on those occasions. It continues, as in the past, its role of stimulating research on the history of the Jews in the Western Hemisphere.

(g) The AJHS maintains correspondence and an exchange of information with Jewish historical societies in other lands.

(h) To continue and to expand its activities the AJHS must ask for increased moral and material support from the American Jewish communities. It also welcomes gifts of books, pamphlets, manuscripts and memorabilia for preservation in its archives in order to make them available for historical research to competent scholars.

HOW IS THE AJHS FINANCED? The major source of income is membership dues ranging from \$10 upward. Some friends of the Society add occasional donations, and an increasing number of Jewish Welfare Federations recognize the Society's importance in the cultural life of the American Jewish community by making annual contributions to the AJHS.

June 27, 1957

Messrs. I. M. Simon & Company,
320 North 4th Street,
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Sirs:

We have been informed by Mr. and Mrs. Eric P. Newman of St. Louis, of their unanimous donation to the American Jewish Historical Society of thirteen shares of common stock of El Paso Natural Gas Company. In a communication, dated June 25th, Mr. Newman requested us to communicate with you directly concerning these shares.

We would appreciate it very much if the stock would be placed in the name of the American Jewish Historical Society, 3000 Broadway, New York 27, New York. As for the ultimate disposition of the stock, this matter will be taken up at the Executive Council Meeting of the Society, some time in November of this year.

Thanking you for your kind co-operation in this matter, we remain

Sincerely yours,

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ISIDORE S. MEYER
Librarian-Editor



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Ex Officio

PROF. SALO W. BARON

HENRY S. HENDRICKS

DR. DAVID DE SOLA POOL

Mr. and Mrs. Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores, Inc.,
400 Washington Avenue
St. Louis 2, Missouri

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Newman:

Thank you for your kind letter of June 25th. We are enclosing herein a copy of the letter that we sent today to the I.M. Simon & Company, as per your directive.

I wish to take this opportunity to express to you our profound gratitude for your benevolence in assisting us in our work.

Sincerely yours,

Isidore S. Meyer
ISIDORE S. MEYER
Librarian-Editor